



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMHOffice of Health Services
Medical Care ProgramsMaryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor – Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor – S. Anthony McCann, Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Medical Day Care Transmittal No. 51

January 19, 2005

TO: Adult Medical Day Care Providers

FROM: Susan J. Tucker, Executive Director
Office of Health Services

NOTE: Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this transmittal.

RE: Eligibility for Medical Day Care Services

The Medical Assistance Program (Program) has changed its policy for specifying the effective date of Medical Day Care (MDC) eligibility decisions. On December 9, 2004 the Program's Utilization Control Agent (UCA) was instructed to specify the effective date of its eligibility decision as the date the DHMH 3871 or DHMH 3871B is completed. The Program considers the DHMH 3871B or DHMH 3871 completed as of the date the form is signed by a physician. Please note that the physician signature date cannot be backdated.

This change will enable MDC providers to be more responsive to the needs of the consumers served by the Program. For example, Medicaid recipients can now access MDC services effective the date the provider secures the physician's signature. Such access supports the Program's goal of promoting community based services as an alternative to institutionally based services.

Medical Day Care providers are cautioned, however, to be judicious in admitting individuals for services before receipt of an eligibility decision from the Program's UCA. Reimbursement for services provided ultimately requires a determination from the UCA that an individual qualifies for MDC services.



If you have questions regarding the policy change, please contact
Medical Day Care Staff at 410-767-1444.

cc: Area Agencies on Aging
Delmarva Foundation for Medical Care, Inc.
Department of Human Resources
League of Excellence in Adult Day Care
Living At Home: Maryland Community Choices Case Managers
Maryland Association of Adult Day Services
Maryland Department of Aging
Older Adults Waiver Case Managers
File